

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 MC-02

AEC-11 SCI-06 IO-13 /131 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP;JCDORRANCE:RLW

8/8/73 EXT 20870

APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL

PM/AE:HGHANDYSIDE

EA/ANP:LJMOSE

PM/ISO:JRDEWENTER

DOD/ISA:RGLONG

DOD/SAFUS:ROBINSON

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R 081951Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO DOD

CSAF

CNO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156502

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PARM, PINR, AS

SUBJ: MEDIA REQUEST TO VISIT USAF INSTALLATION AT
AMBERLEY

REF: A. STATE 151580

B. CANBERRA 4380

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1. AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL (SHORTLY AFTER RECEIPT REFTEL B ON AUGUST 7) CALLED UPON ACTING ASST. SECRETARY HUMMEL TO ASK RECONSIDERATION OF EARLIER USG REQUEST (MADE TO AUSTRALIAN DCM FERNANDEZ ON AUGUST 6) THAT ABC TEAM NOT BE ADMITTED TO AMBERLEY FOR TIME-BEING. (FYI: US DECISION ORIGINALLY BASED ON CONCERN ABC SPECULATIVE STORIES COULD MAKE MORE DIFFICULT A CONTEMPLATED TURN-OVER OF AMBERLEY TO CIVILIAN AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTION.)

2. HOWEVER, GIVEN CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY GOA THROUGH AMB. PLIMSOLL (ESSENTIALLY SAME AS THOSE EXPRESSED TO EMBASSY BY PRITCHETT), AMB. PLIMSOLL WAS ADVISED EVENING AUGUST 7 THAT USG AGREES TO VISIT BY ABC TEAM ON CONDITION TEAM NOT REPEAT NOT INTERVIEW STATION PERSONNEL, AND THAT OTHER CONDITIONS ALREADY LAID OUT BY GOA

(REFTEL A) CAREFULLY ADHERED TO. AT SAME TIME, AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL WAS INFORMALLY ADVISED USG, OWING TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES, NO LONGER REQUIRES AMBERLEY STATION AND IS PREPARED, ASSUMING CERTAIN US LEGAL OBSTACLES CAN BE OVERCOME, TO NEGOTIATE TURNOVER OF STATION TO AN AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTION.

3. AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL HAS AGREED THAT GOA WOULD FIRST TELL ABC THAT THERE IS NOTHING REALLY PHOTOGENIC AT AMBERLEY TO JUSTIFY A TELEVISION CREW GOING THERE; BUT ADD THAT, IF ABC DESIRED IT COULD SEND A MAN TO AMBERLEY WITH AN AUSTRALIAN ESCORT OFFICER IN ORDER TO VERIFY THAT THIS IS SO. IF ABC THEN PERSISTS IN WANTING TO SEND A TV TEAM, IT WOULD BE TOLD IT COULD DO SO, WITH THE AUSTRALIAN ESCORT OFFICER TO DO ALL REPEAT ALL BRIEFING. ROGERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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